

SRI H. NIDDAVEERAPPA (Minister for Health).—

(a) & (b) The matter is under consideration of the Government.

CALLING ATTENTION TO A MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

re: Withdrawal of fee concession to students of Scs./Sts. who are converted to Christianity

SMT. ADDY SALDANA (Mangalore-I).—I call the attention of the Hon. Education Minister to the withdrawal of fee concession to students of SC/ST who are converted to Christianity.

SRI M. MALLIKARJUNASWAMY (Minister for Education). Madam Speaker, I beg to make the following statement in response to the Call attention Notice given by Smt Addy Saldana.

In their order No. ED 43 SMC 57 dated 25th April 1959, Government have issued directions that fee and scholarship concessions, which are granted to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes, should be extended to the students belonging to families converted to Christianity from the said Castes and Tribes and these concessions would apply to the first and second generation of converts only. In pursuance of this order, candidates, who are the sons and daughters, grandsons and grand-daughters of persons who converted themselves to Christianity from Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes, have been exempted from payment of S. S. L. C. Examination fee on production of a certificate from the Head of the recognised Church to this effect. The said Government Order dated 25th April 52 has not been withdrawn so far.

SMT. ADDY SALDANA.—May I know whether the caste changes with the Religion?

SRI M. MALLIKARJUNASWAMY.—Yes.

SMT. WINNIFRED F. FERNANDES.—Madam Speaker, the Hon'ble Minister for Education said that this concession would apply only to first and second generation of the converts. Does it mean that only Hindu SC/STs are eligible to this free concessions and not Christian SC/STs. But according to the Constitution of India, it is declared that all States should provide certain equal facilities not only to members of Hindu SC/ST, but also to members of other socially and economically backward class people whether they profess Hinduism or Christianity or any other religion. So, I would

like to know from the Government why this stand still more? And why not the same educational fee concessions given to S/J/ST people converted to Christianity?

SRI M. MALLIKARJUNASWAMY.—That is as per the original Government order of 1958. Therefore, I have already made a statement on the floor of the House; and I reiterate the same stand that has already been taken.

ಶ್ರೀ ಕೆ. ಆರ್. ಶ್ರೀನಿವಾಸಲಿಂಗಯ್ಯ.—ನಮ್ಮ ಹಿಂದೂ ಸಮಾಜದಲ್ಲಿ ವರ್ಣಾಶ್ರಮಧರ್ಮಗಳು ಹೇಗಿವೆಯೋ ಹಾಗೇ ಕ್ರೈಸ್ತರಲ್ಲೂ ಇವೆ ಎಂದಾಗ ಅವರಿಗೇಕೆ ಈ ಬೆನಿಫಿಟ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಕೊಡಬಾರದು.

SRI M. MALLIKARJUNASWAMY.—That question does not arise out of this question.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

SECRETARY.—Madam Speaker, I lay on the Table of the House the First List of Un-starred Questions and Answers of Fifth Session.

MADAM SPEAKER.—It is laid on the Table.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

ENHANCEMENT OF D. A.

1. **SRI G. PUTTASWAMY (Mudigere).**—

Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state :—

(a) whether the Government had issued an order raising the D. A. payable to Government servants, teachers in aided schools and local bodies, etc ;

(b) whether the same has been implemented to Government servants; if so, from what date

(c) whether the raise in D. A. has been given effect to in the aided schools, etc. ;

(d) if not, the reasons for the delay

SRI M. MALLIKARJUNASWAMY (Minister for Education)

(a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

1-4-1973 and 1-8-1973.

(c) Yes.*

(d) Does not arise, in view of reply to clause (c).